

Joshua 24: 1-2a, 15-17, 18b, Ephesians 5: 21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32, John 6: 60-69

FOCUS: We gather to taste and see the goodness of the Lord and to decide, anew, that is where we want to be!

Today's Gospel begins ominously: "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" and concludes with the result that " ...many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him." We may look around and wonder what has happened to some of our friends or even family members, who no longer join in the celebration of the Eucharist. Both today's reading from the Book of Joshua and John's Gospel tell us that the covenant—our living in faith—is always a choice. Joshua pleads "...decide today whom you will serve ..." We know that our being here, and our faith, is first of all God's invitation to us; yet, God's invitation demands our response in return.

We hear Jesus ask, "Do you also want to leave?" Peter speaks, hopefully for each of us, "Master, to whom shall we go?" Yet, the point is this, although we may agree with the words of Peter, each one of us has to speak for yourself; no one can profess another's faith. No doubt, many of you have reasons why you could leave or why you may have left in the past, but any doubts there may be cannot cancel the choosing and should not deaden anyone to the present opportunity. Our coming together today and our hearing these readings invite us to reaffirm why we are here, and to enumerate anew the values we find in our Christian, Catholic faith. Today's Psalm, response can be our invitation, "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

Today's reading from Ephesians also can be a hard saying for some with its "wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything." This was the epistle reading used for most Catholic weddings forty years ago; today, few couples choose it. Yet, the passage really is not about subordination in marriage; it is about the love of Christ and the Church. The passage begins, "Brothers and sister: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ." Paul could not help but speak out of the social arrangement of marriage and family as they were lived in his time; yet, the message is that Christ loves the Church; "...that she might be holy and without blemish." We hear such powerful words here; Christ nourishes and cherishes us because we are members of his body. It is Christ who gave himself for us, his Church. We are washed in baptism in preparation for living in deep communion with Jesus, and the sacrament of marriage reflects this union. The subordination spoken about is, of course, the whole Church, both men and women, to Christ, our Head and Savior who handed himself over for our sanctification.

As we share the Eucharist, we are the Church, the body of Christ, and our reverence for, and subordination to his Church is the mystery we live in Christ.

Today's Gospel, with its hard saying, is the final segment, read over the past five Sundays. From the teaching of Jesus on the Eucharist. The people ask: "How can this man give us (his) flesh to eat?" (Jn 6:52) which picks up at least part of the difficult teaching of Jesus. We treasure what we receive in communion—the real presence of Jesus; yet, we know this can be a hard saying for some. Perhaps, the choosing, emphasized in today's readings, can become an opportunity for our renewal of faith. Through prayer and reflection, what at first may seem harsh and difficult to understand, can indeed become another reason for deciding anew whom we will serve. Our faith leads us evermore deeply into God's ways and demands of us a new decision at each step.

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

President-Lisa Glen	446-4874
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Cadet Representative	Jennifer Barrow, 515-5918
Hospitality	Mary Julich, 446-1071 &
Representatives at-large,	Susan Lathrop, 446-4593
	Alice O'Hara, 446-5797

Dates to remember

23 & 24 August—SIGN UP: Liturgical Ministries, MCCW, Religious Education registration, re-registration & Parish registration, after the Masses.

24 August—Baptismal Class, MHT Rectory 1230

***25 August— Ministry Training
1900 MHT Church/Rectory***

26 Aug—RCIA Inquiry Night, Rm 5326 Washington Hall, POC: Kay Heppes, x8761

7th September—Opening Day for Religious Education.

7th September — Parish Picnic

SCRIPTURE FOR WEEK OF Aug 24, 2003

Mon – 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10, Matthew 23: 13-22

Saint Joseph Calasanz

Tue – 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8, Matthew 23: 23-26

Wed – 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13, Matthew 23: 27-32

Saint Monica

Thurs – 1 Thessalonians 3:7-13, Matthew 24: 42-51

Saint Augustine

Fri – 1 Thessalonians 4: 1-8, Mark 6: 17-29

Saint John the Baptist

Sat – 1 Thessalonians 4: 9-11, Matthew 25: 14-30

In honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Sat 23 Aug 1715 Parishioners of MHT

Sun 24 Aug 0900 CPT Kevin Michael Norman '96

Sun 24 Aug 1100 Parishioners of MHT

Mon 25 Aug 1205 Edna Conway

Tue 26 Aug 1205 Veronica Bernard

Wed 27 Aug 1205

Thurs 28 Aug 1205 Kitty Woods

Fri 29 Aug 1205 John Billie

Attendance and Offering Last Weekend:

Attendance 1,338 Offering \$3,579.43

**The Next Designated Offering : August 23/24 will be for
“Sacred Heart”**

HOST FAMILY FOR Aug 30-31

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Aug 30-31

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

USHERS FOR Aug 30-31

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

ALTAR SERVERS Aug 30-31

1715 Volunteer

0900 Volunteer

1100 Volunteer

PROCLAIMERS FOR Aug 30-31

1715 Dan Ragsdale / Joe Peterson

0900 Charles Feher / Joseph Palumbo

1100 Dan O'Brien / Janet Sloan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

The Parish Religious Education program for ALL REGISTERED STUDENTS in Grades Kdg. to High School begins Sunday, 7 September at 0920 in Robinson Auditorium of Thayer Hall, with a Paraliturg that includes a catechist and parent commissioning; prayer service, and student introductions to their catechists. After the Paraliturg, there will be an orientation meeting for all parents with an overview of our curriculum and the parent handbook.

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED TO ALL FAMILIES OF REGISTERED STUDENTS. Included in the mailing is a schedule for opening day and bus route information.

BUS MONITORS are needed when transporting children for the Religious Education program starting 7 September. A sign-up sheet will be available at Thayer Hall on Opening Day, 7 September.

REMEMBER THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN IS A TOP PRIORITY.

POC: 'Ms.Kay' Heppes 938-8761

PRESCHOOL

(4 year old) program begins on Sunday, 14 September in the Cloister Room of the Chapel.

IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED OR RE-REGISTERED FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PLEASE DO SO ASAP!

RCIA:

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process by which people who are considering membership in the Catholic Church come together to experience Christian community and share a journey of faith. FOR WHOM IS IT INTENDED?

1. Unbaptized adults who wish to learn more about the faith and Christian life, with the possibility of being a Catholic Christian.
2. Baptized Christians from other denominations who would like to know, to learn more about, and to possibly join, the Catholic Church.
3. Baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Please call 'Ms. Kay' at 938-8761 for further information.

Regularly scheduled sessions for the RCIA process are held on Tuesday evenings at 1930 Hrs. in Rm 5326 of Washington Hall.

Musings from the Pastor's Corner

WE NEED HELP! So, listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit and say yes to whatever way God calls you to enrich our MHT Parish Family. See the descriptions elsewhere in the bulletin.

Envision: **SITTING IN MOST HOLY TRINITY IN MID-JULY 04 AND THINKING: "I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT MY SWEATHER!"**

For the Engineer types: The 65% drawings are now being commented on by various agencies at USMA. I had the invaluable help of Major **Mark Orwat** and LTC **Ron Welch** in this effort.

Come and sit with Jesus! Beginning **13 August 03 @ 1820-1930. Every Wednesday.** Exposition, Confessions, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at MHT! Spend 10 minutes! Come with the family- rest with Jesus! **Cadets: Warm down with Jesus after a run!**

HEADS UP! Saturday Mass time for the Saturday

Evening Mass on 13 & 20 September will change to 2000- given the football games will be televised and start at 1500!

Beginning **Saturday, 6 September 03** we will have a **Saturday morning Mass** at Most Holy Trinity. The **Mass will be celebrated at 0900 on Saturday.** Come join us- particularly for the First Saturday Mass! ***Our Lady has promised that those who do the First Saturday devotion will get to Heaven!*** HMMM!!!! Sounds like a no-brainer!!!!

FOR TEENS God's TYM will begin soon. We begin a dynamic effort with the Sacred Heart teens. Come on out and Join us! ***Tim Povich & Jessica Lovejoy*** will again be with us. And, we will probably have someone from CYFM who really knows the USMA deal!

We have begun the Academic Year!
Can you believe it???

And, ***GO ARMY!***

With Prayer,
Fr. Jerry